

## 6. AGENCY COORDINATION

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### 6.1 REINVENTING NEPA PILOT PROCESS

The I-405 Corridor Program is a national demonstration pilot study for “Transportation Decision Making Process Improvement.” The revised decision making process (typically referred to as “Reinventing NEPA”) was developed cooperatively by state and federal agencies to evaluate and improve application of the NEPA process, and is jointly sponsored by WSDOT and FHWA.

Two of the more notable differences between the Reinventing NEPA process and the existing transportation decision-making process are that: (1) the Reinventing NEPA process moves NEPA decision-making to the early stages of long-range planning for transportation projects; and (2) the Reinventing NEPA process introduces three “concurrence” points and nine “consensus” points at key milestones and decision points in the NEPA process to ensure increased communication and coordination with affected agencies and jurisdictions. The meaning of these concurrence and consensus points is explained in greater detail below.

Agencies with jurisdiction include resource, regulatory, and jurisdictional agencies that have the ability to stop or deny a project either through a permit action or project objection with regulatory weight. These agencies have chartered responsibilities to review the I-405 Corridor Program status at each decision point. For the I-405 Corridor Program, it was agreed that this would include all members of the I-405 Corridor Program Steering Committee.

Agency *concurrence* is defined as a formal written determination by agencies with jurisdiction that the program information is adequate for the current phase of the process. There are three concurrence points in the process: (1) purpose and need statement; (2) selection of alternatives to advance for detailed study in the Draft EIS; and (3) selection of the Preferred Alternative and mitigation concept in the Final EIS.

At each concurrence point the agencies with jurisdiction have responsibilities to approve, deny, or comment on the decisions at hand. Gaining concurrence means that the program may proceed to the next phase without modification. Each agency with jurisdiction agrees not to revisit its previous concurrence unless there is substantial new information or substantial changes have been made to the proposal, the environment, or laws and regulations. Concurrence does not mean that a permit necessarily will be issued upon completion of the EIS.

A written determination of concurrence with the Statement of Purpose and Need for the I-405 Corridor Program was received from each participating agency with jurisdiction during the fall of 1999. Written confirmation of concurrence with the range of alternatives to advance for detailed study in the Draft EIS was received from each participating agency with jurisdiction during the summer and fall of 2000. For the latter concurrence point, several agencies with jurisdiction attached comments to their concurrence identifying specific areas of concern.

In March 2002, concurrence on the preferred alternative and mitigation concept was requested from the 22 local, state, and federal agencies with jurisdiction. For this last concurrence point, co-lead agencies requested written confirmation of concurrence on the major elements of the I-405 Corridor Program Preferred Alternative and the Mitigation Concept (see Appendix J in the FEIS), as well as agreement to pursue in good faith the amendments of transportation plans and programs in order to implement the I-405 Preferred Alternative and Corridor Environmental

Program. Response on the concurrence package was requested by April 2002. By the time this Final EIS was prepared for printing, concurrence with comment was received from 19 of the 22 agencies.

The nine *consensus* points occur at key milestones dispersed throughout the NEPA process. Consensus is less formal than the concurrence discussed previously and typically addresses issues that are important, but less weighty than those requiring concurrence. Consensus is defined as substantial agreement among the agencies with jurisdiction; it does not require unanimity about a decision. In all cases, agreement must be strong enough that the Steering Committee is committed to implementing the decision.

Consensus points occur at the following milestones in the Reinventing NEPA process:

- Statement of Purpose and Need (draft and final)
- Initial screening criteria for alternatives
- Fatal flaw elimination of alternatives
- Identification of additional data needs
- Second-level screening of alternatives
- Alternatives to include in Draft EIS
- Decision to publish Draft EIS
- Preferred Alternative in Final EIS
- Decision to publish Final EIS

A chronology of all substantive agency involvement during the I-405 Corridor Program process, including Steering Committee meetings and resolution of concurrence and consensus points by the agencies with jurisdiction, is included in Table 6-1.

## **6.2 I-405 CORRIDOR PROGRAM CHRONOLOGY**

The following process chronology details key milestones during the I-405 Corridor Program since initiation of the study in spring of 1999 (Table 6-1). It includes the dates and subject of coordination with the Executive, Steering, and Citizen committees; agencies with jurisdiction; local jurisdictions; and public (including scoping and open houses); as well as the preparation or issuance of working papers, newsletters, and informational materials.

**Table 6-1: I-405 Study Chronology**

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Stakeholder and Community Groups Interviews	Interviews were conducted <u>to identify issues and interview committee members</u>	<u>December 1998</u>
<u>Stakeholder and Community Groups Interviews</u>	<u>Interviews were conducted to identify issues and interview committee members</u>	<u>January 1999</u>
<u>Stakeholder and Community Groups Interviews</u>	<u>Interviews were conducted to identify issues and interview committee members</u>	<u>April 1999</u>

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
<u>Stakeholder and Community Groups Interviews</u>	<u>Interviews were conducted to identify issues and interview committee members</u>	<u>May 1999</u>
Memorandum	I-405 Corridor Program Environmental Impact Statement Proposed Study Area	May 1999
Memorandum	Draft I-405 Corridor Program Approach to Integration of MIS Analyses with NEPA and SEPA Environmental Review	May 1999
Project Website	Website designed for Project; ultimate source for I-405 Program information of all types; all agendas and meetings minutes posted; major reports and correspondence posted	July 1999
Working Paper	WP # 3 - Research on National Examples	July 1999
Executive Committee Meeting	Discussed role and responsibilities of committee; reviewed project decision process; organizational structure; project schedule and overview	July 8, 1999
Memorandum	Proposed Level of Definition and Analysis of Environmental Elements For Corridor Draft EIS	July 1999
Working Papers:	WP #11 - Background Documents Findings	July 1999
	WP # 22 - Engineering Design Conditions	July 1999
	WP #23 - Safety	July 1999
	WP #24 - Environmental Overview	July 1999
	WP #25 - Economic Profile	July 1999
	WP # 1,2 - Public Involvement Plan	August 1999
	WP # 9 - Alternatives Analysis Process	August 1999
	WP # 7 - Approach for Environmental Review	August 1999
Memorandum	Summary of Concurrence Points	August 26, 1999
Steering Committee Meeting	<u>Reviewed public involvement plan; reviewed background report; discussed Purpose and Need Statement; reviewed environmental process; discussed operating issues</u>	August 11, 1999
Executive Committee Meeting	<u>Reviewed public involvement plan; reviewed background report; discussed Purpose and Need Statement; approved selection process and criteria for committee membership; discussed operating issues</u>	August 24, 1999
Working Papers:	WP # 19 Transportation Demand Management	August 1999
	WP # 12, 26 - Relevant Transportation Plans, Projects and Programs	August 1999
	WP # 5 - Legal Authority of State	August 1999
	WP # 9 - Alternative Analysis Process	August 1999
<u>Memorandum</u>	<u>Summary of Concurrence Points</u>	<u>August 26, 1999</u>
Telephone Hotline	Hotline activated for communities and general public	September 1999
Press Release	Inviting qualified candidates to be considered for Membership	September 1999

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Steering Committee Meeting	Refined and reached closure on Purpose and Need Statement (Reinventing NEPA consensus point #1); reviewed of alternatives analysis process; reviewed project/schedule milestones; update on public involvement; reviewed Citizen Committee charter	September 8, 1999
Concurrence Point #1	I-405 Corridor Program Reinventing NEPA Concurrence Point #1: Statement of Purpose and Need	September 1999
Executive Committee Meeting	Approved refined Purpose and Need Statement; Appointed 31 members to the Citizen Committee 9 slots left for additional members; Approved Citizen Committee Charter; Review Alternative Analysis Process	September 21, 1999
Working Papers;	WP # 14 – East King County GIS Data Overview	September 1999
	WP # 10 - Travel Forecasting Methodology	September 1999
	WP # 13 - Community Issues Summary	September 1999
	WP # 4,6 - Corridor Decision Framework	September 1999
	WP # 18 - Existing Freight Conditions	September 1999
	WP # 8 - Cost and Benefit Analysis Methodology	September 1999
	WP # 28 - Intelligent Transportation Systems	September 1999
	WP # 7 - Draft Study Plan for I-405 Corridor Program Draft EIS	October 1999
Determination of Significance	Issued SEPA Determination of Significance	October 4, 1999
Notice of Intent	Issued NEPA Notice of Intent	October 4, 1999
Project Newsletter #1	Distributed to general public; describes Corridor Program; invitation to scoping meetings	October 1999
News Release	Invitation to public scoping meetings	October 1999
Steering Committee Meeting	Review Travel Market Summary; Introduction to Screening Criteria; Input for Alternative Concepts and Strategies	October 6, 1999
Citizen Committee Meeting	Project Kick-off Bus Tour	October 9, 1999
Workshop	Criteria and Objectives Workshop	October 14, 1999
Executive Committee Meeting	Review of Public Involvement Activities; Review of Background Condition-Travel Markets; Review of Alternatives Development and Screening	October 19, 1999
Public Scoping Open House	Renton Public Scoping Open House	October 19, 1999
Public Scoping Open House	Kirkland Public Scoping Open House	October 21, 1999
Citizen Committee Meeting	Alternatives Development Workshop; Identification of Key Issues; Identification of Concepts	October 26, 1999
Study Plan for Draft EIS	Draft Study Plan for I-405 Corridor Program Draft EIS	October 1999
Agency Scoping and Steering Committee Meeting	Review NEPA/SEPA EIS Study Process; NEPA/SEPA EIS Technical Studies; Review Alternatives Development and Screening Criteria	November 10, 1999

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Executive Committee Meeting	Review results from Public Open Houses; Review Citizens Workshop; Review screening criteria; Review concepts to date; Review I-695 Impacts; Approved Problem Statement, Principles and Objectives	November 16, 1999
Steering Committee Meeting	Approve first-level screening criteria ( <u>Reinventing NEPA consensus point #2</u> ); Review Trucking Survey Summary; Review Freight Analysis results; Review findings from first-level screening.	December 8, 1999
Delphi Survey Process	Steering and Citizen Committees participated in a Delphi Process to shape consensus on the seven solution packages.	December 1999
Resource Agency Meeting	Agency meeting re: corridor themes and second-level criteria and screening	January 11, 2000
Citizen Committee Meeting	Joint Meeting to discuss details within each theme packages and forward information to Executive Committee	January 12, 2000
Steering Committee Meeting	Joint Meeting to discuss details within each theme packages and forward information to Executive Committee ( <u>Reinventing NEPA consensus point #3</u> )	January 12, 2000
Executive Committee Meeting	Reviewed first-level screening results; Discussed second-level screening process; reviewed feedback from joint meeting of Steering and Citizen Committees; approved recommended themes	January 25, 2000
Working Papers;	WP # 15, 16, 17 - Existing Transportation Conditions	February 2000
Steering Committee Meeting	<u>Agree</u> on second-level screening criteria and data needs ( <u>Reinventing NEPA consensus point #4</u> ); Unconstrained Modeling Results; Discussion on Process for possible Theme 8	February 9, 2000
Community Presentation	Renton City Council	February 14, 2000
Workshop	TDM Workshop; Discussion on TDM strategies and core assumptions	February 17, 2000
Community Presentation	Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods	March 1, 2000
Executive Committee Workshop	Review second-level screening criteria; public involvement approach; and unconstrained demand	March 1, 2000
Community Presentation	Bothell City Council	March 6, 2000
Citizen Committee Meeting	Review preliminary second-level screening results; Finalize second-level screening criteria and data needs; Discuss process for selecting the alternatives	March 8, 2000
Steering Committee Meeting	Bicycle Club Presentation; TDM Workshop Summary; Review of Alternatives Development Process; Approve second-level screening criteria ( <u>Reinventing NEPA consensus point #5</u> )	March 8, 2000
Resource Agency Meeting	Agency meeting re: second-stage environmental screening data and evaluations	March 14, 2000
Community Presentation	South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd)	March 14, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	BDA/Bellevue Chamber Joint Transportation Meeting	March 14, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Renton Chamber of Commerce	March 16, 2000
Executive Committee Meeting	Review process for selecting alternatives; Preliminary second-level screening illustrations; Major study trade-offs and issues	March 21, 2000
Community Presentation	Freight Mobility Roundtable	March 25, 2000

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Sound Transit	March 27, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Renton Blue Ribbon Commission	March 27, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce	March 29, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	City of Seattle – Transportation Group	April 4, 2000
Newsletter	Update on the Corridor Program; presents the 7 themes	April 2000
Steering Committee Meeting	Review second-level screening results; Discussion on shaping the alternatives	April 5, 2000
Community Presentation	Port of Seattle	April 7, 2000
Citizen Committee Meeting	Reviews Second-Level Screening Results	April 11, 2000
Community Presentations	Neighborhood Network South	April 12, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Redmond Chamber of Commerce	April 12, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP)	April 14, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	1000 Friends of Washington	April 14, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Woodinville City Council	April 17, 2000
Media Kit	Project progress report; fact sheets, and newsletters distributed to Local and Regional Media	April 2000
Public Open House	Review and gather feedback on community preferences for the seven themes	April 18, 2000
Community Presentation	Kirkland Chamber of Commerce	April 19, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	South Snohomish Communities	April 20, 2000
Executive Committee Meeting	Review Second-Level Screening Results; review recommendations from Steering and Citizen Committee; Discuss Shaping the Alternatives	April 25, 2000
Community Presentations	Kennydale Neighborhood Association	April 25, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Renton City Management Association	April 26, 2000
All Committees Meeting	All committee meeting to shape the Alternatives	April 27, 2000
Community Presentation	SW King County Chamber of Commerce	May 2, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Kirkland City Council	May 2, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Redmond City Council	May 9, 2000
Steering Committee Meeting	Reviewed, Discussed and recommended preliminary <u>alternatives</u>	May 9, 2000
Citizen Committee Meeting	Reviewed, Discussed and recommended preliminary Alternatives	May 9, 2000
Community Presentation	Bridle Trails Community Group	May 21, 2000
Executive Committee Meeting	Review Citizen and Steering Committee recommendations; Approve the three Alternatives for I-405 Corridor	May 23, 2000
Community Presentation	Issaquah Kiwanis Club	May 31, 2000

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Resource Agency Meeting	Agency meeting re: potential addition of Fourth Alternative to range of action alternatives for Draft EIS	June 9, 2000
Executive and Steering Committees Joint Meeting	Discussion on adding the Fourth Alternative	June 14, 2000
Community Presentation	Houghton Community Council	June 19, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Kenmore City Council	June 19, 2000
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Renton Highlands Community Council	June 22, 2000
Jurisdictional Staff Workshop Central Corridor	Staff from jurisdictions in the central portion of the corridor provided more detail to the Alternatives	June 28, 2000
Resource Agency Meeting	Agency meeting re: definition and potential impacts of proposed Fourth Alternative	July 6, 2000
Jurisdictional Staff Workshop South and North Corridor	Staff from jurisdictions in the north, south, and central portion of the corridor provided more detail to the Alternatives	July 11, 2000
Executive and Steering Committees Joint Meeting	Discuss and take action on the Fourth Alternative; Discuss citizen committee membership proposal ( <u>Reinventing NEPA consensus point #6</u> )	July 14, 2000
Concurrence Point #2	I-405 Corridor Program Reinventing NEPA Concurrence Point #2: Range of alternatives to advance for detailed study in Draft EIS	July 20, 2000
Executive and Citizen Committee Joint Meeting	Discuss proposed approach to selecting Preferred Alternative; Review Jurisdiction and Agency Workshops	July 25, 2000
Executive and Citizen Committee Joint Meeting	Discuss proposed approach to selecting Preferred Alternative; Review Jurisdiction and Agency Workshops	July 25, 2000
Steering Committee	Related Projects Coordination; Environmental Process Status; Alternatives Definition; Schedule Update	September 5, 2000
Community Presentation	Renton City Council	September 11, 2000
Citizen Committee	Schedule Update; Related Projects Coordination; Environmental Process Status; Alternatives Definition	September 12, 2000
Community Presentation	Sound Transit Open House	September 25, 2000
Workshop for Committee Members	Brown Bag Workshop – Citizen Committee Open Discussion	October 4, 2000
Steering Committee	Decision Process for Preliminary Preferred Alternative; Key Issues Discussion; Evaluation Criteria	October 5, 2000
Community Presentation	Bellevue Chamber/BDA	October 10, 2000
Citizen Committee	Decision Process for Preliminary Preferred Alternative; Discuss Key Issues; Develop Evaluation Criteria	October 18, 2000
Community Presentation	Kirkland Transportation Commission	October 25, 2000
Executive Committee	Review & Discuss Decision Process for Preliminary Preferred Alternative; Review and Discuss Recommendations from Steering and Citizen Committees; Recommend Preliminary Preferred Evaluation Criteria	October 31, 2000

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Community Presentation	Kirkland Sound Transit Open House	November 9, 2000
Community Presentation	Renton HOV Access Project Open House	November 14, 2000
All Committees Meeting	Discuss Project Issues and Share Viewpoints; Review and Discuss Transportation Analysis Results; Identify Additional Information Needs or Issues	November 15, 2000
<u>Review conference for Steering Committee</u>	<u>Review conference on Draft EIS Expertise Reports</u>	<u>November 20, 2000</u>
<u>Review conference for Steering Committee</u>	<u>Review conference on Draft EIS Expertise Reports</u>	<u>November 27, 2000</u>
Community Presentation	Snohomish County Council	November 27, 2000
Community Presentation	Eastgate Sound Transit Open House	November 28, 2000
Commission Presentation	Washington State Transportation Commission	November 30, 2000
Committee Members Workshop	Brown Bag - Transportation and Environmental Results Follow-Up	December 7, 2000
All Committees Meeting	Review and Discuss Environmental and Cost-Benefit Analysis Results; Identify Additional Information Needs or Issues; Prepare for Preliminary Preferred Recommendation	December 14, 2000
Community Presentation	Bellevue Transportation Commission	December 14, 2000
<u>Review conference for Steering Committee</u>	<u>Review conference on Draft EIS Expertise Reports</u>	<u>December 15, 2000</u>
<u>Review conference for Steering Committee</u>	<u>Review conference on Draft EIS Expertise Reports</u>	<u>December 18, 2000</u>
Steering Committee	Decision Process for Preliminary Preferred; Transportation and Environmental Criteria Analysis Follow Up; Discussion on Preliminary Preferred Alternative	December 19, 2000 (afternoon)
Citizen Committee	Decision Process for Preliminary Preferred; Transportation and Environmental Criteria Analysis Follow Up; Discussion on Preliminary Preferred Alternative	December 19, 2000 (evening)
<u>Review conference for Steering Committee</u>	<u>Review conference on Draft EIS Expertise Reports</u>	<u>December 20, 2000</u>
Community Presentation	Bothell City Council	January 2, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Renton City Council	January 8, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Bellevue City Council	January 8, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Eastside Transportation Partnership	January 12, 2001
Workshop for Committee Members	Benefit-Cost Results	January 14, 2001
Community Presentation	SCAT Board	January 16, 2001
Community Presentation	Renton Transportation Committee	January 16, 2001
Steering Committee	Review Benefit-Cost Analysis Summary; Review Committee Worksheet Responses; Discussion and Recommendations on Preliminary Preferred Alternative	January 18, 2001 (afternoon)

Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials	Subject	Date
Citizen Committee	Review Benefit-Cost Analysis Summary; Review Committee Worksheet Responses; Discussion and Recommendations on Preliminary Preferred Alternative	January 18, 2001 (evening)
Community Presentation	Renton City Council	January 22, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Redmond City Council	January 23, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Associated General Contractors	January 24, 2001
Executive Committee	Review Benefit-Cost Analysis Summary; Review Committee Worksheet Responses; Discussion and Recommendations on Preliminary Preferred Alternative	January 25, 2001
<u>News Release</u>	<u>Preliminary Preferred Alternative Selection</u>	<u>January 26, 2001</u>
Community Presentation	Kirkland City Council	February 6, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Bellevue Downtown Association	February 13, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Trans-Lake Washington Project	February 14, 2001
Tribal Presentation	Muckleshoot Tribe	February 26, 2001
Resource Agency	FTA	February 27, 2001
Workshop for Committee Members	Managed Lanes; Legislative Activities	February 27, 2001
Community Presentation	Central Houghton Neighborhood Association	March 7, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Freight Mobility Round Table	March 9, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods	March 14, 2001
Sound Transit Workshop	Sound Transit Bus Rapid Transit Brown Bag Meeting	March 12, 2001
<u>Editorial Board Presentation</u>	<u>Eastside Journal</u>	<u>March 15, 2001</u>
<u>Editorial Board Presentation</u>	<u>Seattle Times</u>	<u>March 20, 2001</u>
Public Open House	Bothell EIS Open House	March 20, 2001
<u>Public Open House</u>	Renton EIS Open House	March 22, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Renton Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>March 26, 2001</u>
Committee Members Workshop	Transit Discussion Meeting; Central Core HCT Options; Bus Rapid Transit	March 28, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Newcastle City Council</u>	<u>April 3, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Kirkland City Council</u>	<u>April 3, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>SW KC Chamber of Commerce: Tukwila Government Affairs</u>	<u>April 3, 2001</u>
Steering Committee	EIS Status; Survey Findings; Legislative Update; Preliminary Preferred Alternative Refinements	April 5, 2001
Community Presentation	Woodinville City Council	April 9, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>1000 Friends of Washington</u>	<u>April 12, 2001</u>

<b>Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	Eastside Transportation Partnership	April 13, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	League of Women Voters	April 17, 2001
Citizen Committee	Survey Findings; Legislative Update; Preliminary Preferred Alternative Refinements	April 17, 2001
Executive Committee	EIS Status; Survey Findings; Legislative Update; Preliminary Preferred Alternative Refinements	April 24, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Woodridge Community Council</u>	<u>April 26, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Renton Open House</u>	<u>April 26, 2001</u>
Community Presentation	Redmond TMA	May 2, 2001
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Issaquah Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>May 10, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>CREW</u>	<u>May 12, 2001</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development; Implementation Plan; Legislative Review</u>	<u>May 16, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development; Implementation Plan; Legislative Review</u>	<u>May 30, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP)</u>	<u>June 8, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Seattle Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>June 12, 2001</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>EIS Finalization; Preferred Alternative Development; Decision to publish Draft EIS (Reinventing NEPA consensus point #7)</u>	<u>June 12, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Bellevue Rotary</u>	<u>June 19, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Renton Highland Community Association</u>	<u>June 28, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>June 28, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Kennydale Neighborhood Association</u>	<u>July 25, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Snohomish County Council</u>	<u>August 6, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Newcastle City Council</u>	<u>August 7, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Environmental Focus; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>August 16, 2001</u>
<u>Citizen Committee</u>	<u>Environmental Focus; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>August 22, 2001</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Environmental Focus; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>August 22, 2001</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Managed Lanes; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>September 11, 2001</u>
<u>Citizen Committee</u>	<u>Managed Lanes; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>September 13, 2001</u>
<u>Public Hearing</u>	<u>Northshore Senior Center</u>	<u>September 18, 2001</u>
<u>Public Hearing</u>	<u>Renton Senior Center</u>	<u>September 19, 2001</u>
<u>Public Hearing</u>	<u>Bellevue Regional Library</u>	<u>September 20, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Managed Lanes; Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>September 25, 2001</u>

<b>Meeting, Workshop, Report/Memo, Public Information Materials</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>October 16, 2001</u>
<u>Citizen Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>October 23, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Development</u>	<u>October 30, 2001</u>
<u>All Committees Meeting</u>	<u>Draft EIS Public Comment review</u>	<u>October 30, 2001</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Recommendation (Reinventing NEPA consensus point #8)</u>	<u>November 8, 2001</u>
<u>Citizen Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Recommendation</u>	<u>November 8, 2001</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Recommendation</u>	<u>November 16, 2001</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Rose Hill Neighborhood Assoc</u>	<u>January 9, 2002</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Description, Implementation Plan Overview</u>	<u>January 9, 2002</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Preferred Alternative Description, Implementation Plan Overview</u>	<u>January 17, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Renton Transportation Commission</u>	<u>January 17, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>King Country Employee Trans</u>	<u>February 7, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>SW KC Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>February 8, 2002</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Environmental Mitigation Strategy</u>	<u>February 12, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>King County Council Transportation Committee</u>	<u>February 27, 2002</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Environmental Mitigation Strategy</u>	<u>February 28, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Renton Committee of the Whole</u>	<u>March 4, 2002</u>
<u>Steering Committee</u>	<u>Draft Recommendation Report, Identification of Preferred Alternative in Final EIS</u>	<u>March 12, 2002</u>
<u>Community Presentation</u>	<u>Woodinville Chamber of Commerce</u>	<u>March 21, 2002</u>
<u>Concurrence Point #3</u>	<u>I-405 Corridor Program Reinventing NEPA Concurrence Point #3: Preferred Alternative and Mitigation Concept in Final EIS</u>	<u>April 5, 2002</u>
<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Draft Recommendation Report</u>	<u>April 2, 2002</u>

### **6.3 AGENCY SCOPING**

An agency scoping meeting for the I-405 Corridor Program NEPA/SEPA EIS was conducted on November 10, 1999, with affected jurisdictions, resource and regulatory agencies, and other members of the I-405 Corridor Program Steering Committee. The purpose of the meeting was to review the study process, examine the preliminary range of alternatives, discuss the scope and detail of technical studies that would be necessary to evaluate the alternatives, and receive comments and data from the participants.

Comments that were received addressed nearly every element of the environment. Issues identified through agency scoping include the following:

#### **Air Quality**

- Consider PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone in the study
- Clarify that a conformity analysis would not be part of the EIS

#### Noise

- Consider increasing the measurement points for noise model calibration to more than 25
- Clarify how construction noise would be treated in the EIS

#### Energy

- Consider reporting energy in units that can be compared across alternatives on a passenger basis

#### Soils and Slides

- Recommended additional sources of data for soils and geologic hazard areas

#### Surface Water Quality and Quantity

- Recommended reporting surface water resources included on 303d List
- Recommended qualitative plume-loading analysis
- Recommended consideration of potential effects on water temperatures
- Consider potential effects on stormwater quantity and quality
- Consider stormwater conveyance and retrofits as part of overall mitigation plan, including issues related to fish passage
- Consider anticipated changes in water quality standards

#### Groundwater

- Consider referencing King County groundwater information and, if available, management plans

#### Wetlands

- Recommended examination of potential effects on more than just Category I wetlands

#### Fish and Aquatic Habitat

- Provided notice that bull trout have recently been listed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Land Use

- Clarify that zoning would not be addressed in the EIS

#### Floodplains

- Recommended examination of potential effects on flood storage

#### Displacements

- Clarify that estimates of displacements will be based on approximations of potential areas affected by improvements

#### Social Impacts

- Clarify that the EIS would attempt to identify opportunities to improve “livability” in affected communities

#### Economic Impacts

- Clarify whether long-term changes in employers, employment, and related work trips (as it affects telecommuting and transportation demand management) will be addressed in the EIS
- Clarify whether least-cost planning will be addressed in the EIS

#### Utilities

- Consider potential effects on local and regional utilities

#### Traffic and Transportation

- Recommend that the EIS consider SR 518 because of its physical relationship to I-405 and the importance of its connection to SeaTac Airport
- Recommend that the EIS consider a range of alternatives that includes other means to address travel demand besides adding more than two lanes in each direction on I-405
- Recommend that the EIS evaluate increasing the speed and efficiency of the bus transit system
- Recommend that the EIS consider all affected transit operating agencies

Each comment was recorded, advanced into development of the methodologies that guided the analysis of technical issues, and considered in the EIS.

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